

D-3004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT

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In the application of:)
Hughes) Group Art Unit: 1614
Serial No. 10/016,850)
Filed: December 14, 2001)
For: PHARMACEUTICAL CONJUGATES WITH
ENHANCED PHARMACOKINETIC
CHARACTERISTICS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on or

before April 30, 2003

Title atty

Date 4/30/03

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's communication mailed March 31, 2003.

Restriction has been required between Group I, claims 1 to 16, drawn to pharmaceutical conjugates, and Group II, claims 17 to 23, drawn to methods of treating an ophthalmic condition. Applicant provisionally elects the Group I claims. However, applicant traverses the restriction requirement.

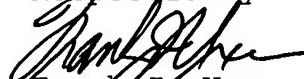
Claims 1 to 16, the Group I claims, are directed to pharmaceutical conjugates comprising a therapeutic component and a specifically defined efficacy enhancing component. Claims 17 to 23, the Group II claims, are directed to methods for treating an ophthalmic condition comprising the step administering a pharmaceutical conjugate comprising a therapeutic component and a specifically defined efficacy enhancing component. Thus, all of

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the present claims are closely related so that a search with regard to one of the groups of claims would encompass a search for the other group of claims. Thus, the Patent and Trademark Office is placed under no undue burden to consider all of the present claims in the above-identified application.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that all of the present claims, that is claims 1 to 23, be considered and examined in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,



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